PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SEVENTH SESSION

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting on Tuesday, 13 May, at 10:00

DISCUSSION OF THE WORK - Tuesday, 13 May
• Reports and discussions on the Committee’s work

JOINT SESSION - Tuesday, 13 May (p.m.)
• Joint session with the Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)

FORUM - Wednesday and Thursday, 14 and 15 May
• International Forum on Trade Facilitation (See annex I for Programme)

POLICY SEGMENT - Friday, 16 May (a.m.)
• Presentation and discussion on “Strategies to Enhance Trade Facilitation Implementation in UNECE member States”.

CONCLUSIONS FROM THE CHAIR OF THE FORUM - Friday, 16 May (a.m.)
• Review of the conclusions from the Chair of the Forum, and decisions made on possible follow-up action.

DOCUMENTS – Documents for the session will be distributed by mail and posted on the web site (http://www.unece.org/trade/). For reasons of economy, delegations are requested to bring to the meeting their copies of the documents listed in the Provisional Agenda.
No documentation available in the conference room.

ACCESS TO THE PALAIS DES NATIONS - Security badges are required in order to enter the Palais. To obtain a badge, participants and delegates must register in advance. For details, see annex II.
## OVERVIEW

**UNECE Trade Facilitation Week 12 - 16 May 2003**

### Timetable and Provisional Agenda

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon. 12 May</th>
<th>Agenda Items</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Annual session of the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)</td>
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<tr>
<th>Tues. 13 May 10:00 - 10:30</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Adoption of the agenda</td>
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<td>2. Election of officers</td>
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<td>3. Matters arising from the fifty-eighth session of the Economic Commission for Europe and meetings held under the General Assembly</td>
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### Day 1

**Mon. 12 May**

- **(a.m.)**
  - UN/CEFACT Plenary session
  - CTIED International Forum on Trade Facilitation: "How to achieve benefits for all?"

- **(p.m.)**
  - UN/CEFACT Plenary session
  - CTIED International Forum on Trade Facilitation: "Trade facilitation policy and new security initiatives"

### Day 2

**Tues. 13 May**

- **10:00 - 10:30**
  - Adoption of the agenda
  - Election of officers
  - Matters arising from the fifty-eighth session of the Economic Commission for Europe and meetings held under the General Assembly

### Day 3

**Wed. 14 May**

- **International Forum on Trade Facilitation**
  - "The contribution of the business community"

### Day 4

**Thurs. 15 May**

- **International Forum on Trade Facilitation**
  - "Open regionalism in trade facilitation"
  - Experience of the UN regional commissions

### Day 5

**Fri. 16 May**

- **CTIED Policy Segment**
  - "Strategies to Enhance Trade Facilitation in UNECE member States”
  - Review of Chairman’s Conclusions from the International Forum and decisions on possible follow-up activities

- **Final session**
  - Approval of the Report
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<tr>
<th>Agenda Items</th>
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<tr>
<td>10: 30 – 11:30</td>
<td>TRADE POLICY AND PROMOTION</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Review of recent and</td>
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<td>prospective trade trends,</td>
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<td>ECE/TRADE/NONE/2003/2</td>
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<td>policies and problems</td>
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<td>ECE/TRADE/NONE/2003/3</td>
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<td>5. Trade promotion activities</td>
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<td>TRADE/2003/3</td>
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<td>ECE/TRADE/284</td>
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<td>11:30 – 13:00</td>
<td>REPORTS FROM SUBSIDIARY BODIES</td>
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<td>covering major developments and</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Legal and commercial</td>
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<td>TRADE/2003/4</td>
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<td>practice</td>
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<td>13:00 – 15:00</td>
<td>Lunch Break</td>
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**Afternoon JOINT SESSION**
- Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development (CTIED)
- UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)

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<td>9. Opening Statement to the</td>
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<td>Joint Session by the Executive</td>
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<td>Secretary, UNECE</td>
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<td>standardization policies</td>
<td>TRADE/2003/7</td>
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<td>TRADE/2003/7/Add.1</td>
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<td>11. Trade facilitation.</td>
<td>TRADE/CEFACT/2002/41</td>
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<td>(Review of the decisions</td>
<td>TRADE/2003/8</td>
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<td>sessions on 12 May and the</td>
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<td>morning of 13 May)</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:30-17:30</td>
<td>PROGRAMME OF WORK</td>
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| 12.          | Activities of the Commission’s other principal subsidiary bodies  
|              | (Report of relevant activities of the Inland Transport Committee) | TRADE/2003/9                  |                             |
| 13.          | Programme of work, and priorities  
<p>|              | (Including a joint review of work items relating to UN/CEFACT) | TRADE/2003/10                | TRADE/2003/12               |
|              |                                       | TRADE/2003/11                      | TRADE/2003/11/Add.1         |
| 14.          | Capacity building and implementation activities |                                     | TRADE/2003/14               |
| 17:30 – 18:00| REPORTS ON CROSS-SECTORAL ACTIVITIES AND COOPERATION |                                     |                             |
| 15.          | Cross-sectoral activities in sustainable development, gender mainstreaming and ICT for development | | TRADE/2003/15 |
| 16.          | Cooperation with other organizations in support of the programme of work | | TRADE/2003/16 |
| Wed. 14 May  | All day                               | INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON TRADE FACILITATION |                             |
| Thurs. 15 May| All day                               |                                     |                             |</p>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Fri. 16 May 10:00 – 11:30</td>
<td>COMMITTEE POLICY SEGMENT</td>
<td>TRADE/2003/17</td>
<td>TRADE/2003/18</td>
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<td>17. Policy Segment</td>
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<td>&quot;Strategies to enhance trade facilitation implementation in UNECE member States&quot;</td>
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<td>(Short presentations by the secretariat and select national trade facilitation organizations, followed by an open discussion)</td>
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<td>18. Conclusions from Chair of the International Forum on Trade Facilitation, and Follow-up</td>
<td>TRADE/2003/19</td>
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<td>TRADE/2003/22</td>
<td>TRADE/2003/23</td>
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<td>12:30 – 13:00</td>
<td>OTHER BUSINESS</td>
<td>TRADE/2003/24</td>
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<td>16:00 - 17:30</td>
<td>20. Adoption of the report</td>
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Introduction

1. The provisional agenda and timetable for the seventh session of the Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development (CTIED) have been drawn up by the secretariat in consultation with the Bureau on the basis of the decisions and programme of work adopted by the Committee at its sixth session.

2. Also at its sixth session, the Committee decided to hold a second International Forum on Trade Facilitation this year. The preliminary agenda is attached as annex I. A detailed version can be found in document TRADE/2003/19. The two-day Forum takes place on Wednesday, 14 and Thursday, 15 May, i.e. between the first and last days of the Committee session.

3. The Committee session formally begins on Tuesday, 13 May at 10:00h.

ANNOTATIONS

Item 1 - Adoption of the agenda

4. In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda is the adoption of the agenda (ECE/TRADE/305).

Item 2 - Election of officers

5. At its sixth session, the Committee elected Mr. Alexander Safarik-Pstrosz (Czech Republic) as Chairman, Ms. Ayse Öktem (Turkey), Mr. Tolon Toichubaev (Kyrgyzstan) and Mr. Robert Van Kuik (Netherlands) as vice-chairpersons.

Item 3 - Matters arising from the fifty-eighth session of the Economic Commission for Europe

6. The secretariat will report on the discussions held and the decisions adopted by the Commission at its fifty-eighth session in March 2003 (TRADE/2003/1).

7. A brief summary will be made of discussions that took place in the Committee for Programme and Coordination of the General Assembly on the programme of work of the CTIED and of decisions taken in the General Assembly's Second Committee on economic and financial issues in areas such as the High-Level Dialogue on Financing for Development, Globalization and Interdependence, and Sustainable Development, which may affect the Committee's work (TRADE/2003/2)
TRADE POLICY AND PROMOTION

Item 4 - Review of recent and prospective trade trends, policies and problems

8. The secretariat will introduce the first 2003 issue of the Economic Survey of Europe (ECE/EAD/2003/2), as well as an extract from the survey (ECE/TRADE/NONE/2003/2).

A short presentation will be given on recent economic developments, including foreign trade, based upon the latest edition of the Economic Survey of Europe

9. A report will be made on the results from the 7 April 2003 Workshop on Trade, Business and Investment in a wider Europe (ECE/TRADE/NONE/2003/3).

Item 5 – Trade promotion activities

10. The secretariat will present a report (TRADE/2003/3) on the Committee’s trade promotion activities, including the Multiplier Point programme and the Trade Directory. It will also present the recently published CD-ROM on “Best Practice for International Business” (ECE/TRADE/284). Both documents are for information.

REPORTS FROM SUBSIDIARY BODIES

- MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS
- DECISIONS REQUESTED OF THE COMMITTEE

Item 6 – Legal and commercial practice

11. The Committee will have before it, for information, an interim report pending the holding of the fifty-first session of the Working Party on International Legal and Commercial Practice (WP.5) (TRADE/2003/4). It had been proposed that the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) might wish to organize in Vienna a follow-up to the conference held in Villars, Switzerland in November 2001, on the economic dimension in conflict prevention. To date, no decision has been taken by OSCE in this regard.

Item 7 - Industry and enterprise development

12. The Committee will have before it, for any decisions the Committee has been requested to make and for endorsement, the report of the fourth session of the Working Party on Industry and Enterprise Development (TRADE/WP.8/2003/11). The secretariat will present, for information, a note summarizing progress since the February 2003 session of the Working Party (TRADE/2003/5).
**Item 8 - Agricultural quality standards**

13. The Committee will have before it, **for any decisions the Committee has been requested to make and for endorsement**, the report of the fifty-eighth session of the Working Party on Perishable Produce and Quality Development (WP.7) (TRADE/WP.7/2002/9). In particular, the Committee will be asked to approve a change in name for the Working Party to the “Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards”. There will also be a note by the secretariat (TRADE/2003/6) summarizing progress achieved since that session which is **for information**.

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Agenda Items 9 through 14 will be discussed during the CTIED - UN/CEFACT joint session

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**Item 9 - Opening Statement to the Joint Session by the UNECE Executive Secretary**

14. The Executive Secretary of UNECE, Ms. Brigita Schmögnerová, will open the joint session of the Committee and the Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT).

**Item 10 – Technical Harmonization and Standardization Policies**

15. **For any decisions it has been requested to make and for endorsement**, the Committee will have before it the report of the 2002 session of the Working Party on Technical Harmonization and Standardization Policies (TRADE/WP.6/2002/17). The Committee is requested, in particular, to approve the establishment of an ad hoc team of experts on market surveillance issues. **For information**, the secretariat has prepared two documents: a summary of developments since the 2002 session (TRADE/2003/7) and a note on the latest projects: the “Telecom Industry Initiative” and the “Market Surveillance Initiative” (TRADE/2003/7/Add.1).

**Item 11 - Trade facilitation**

16. The Committee will **review and approve the wording of the decisions** made by UN/CEFACT during its meetings on 12 and 13 May for inclusion in the UN/CEFACT session report. The Committee will also have before it, **for information**, a UN/CEFACT report (TRADE/2003/8) summarizing developments in the last year, as well as, **for any decisions the Committee has been requested to make and for endorsement**, the report of the 2002 session of UN/CEFACT (TRADE/CEFACT/2002/41)
PROGRAMME OF WORK

Item 12 - Activities of the Commission’s other principal subsidiary bodies

17. The Committee will have before it, for discussion and noting, a secretariat note on the activities of the UNECE Inland Transport Committee (TRADE/2003/9) that are, or could be, related to the CTIED Programme of Work.

Item 13 - Programme of Work, and Priorities

18. The Committee will have, for approval, a Bureau proposal for revising the format of the programme of work and procedures (TRADE/2003/10), and the draft programme of work for the Trade Development Subprogramme and the Industry and Enterprise Development Subprogramme (TRADE/2003/11 and TRADE/2003/11/Add.1). Two further documents for information report on the outputs of those subprogrammes in the last year (TRADE/2003/12) and (TRADE/2003/13).

REPORTS ON CROSS-SECTORAL ACTIVITIES AND COOPERATION

Item 14 - Capacity building and implementation activities

19. A report will be made, for information, on activities related to capacity building and implementation of the results of the work under the Committee (TRADE/2003/14).

Item 15 - Cross-sectoral activities in sustainable development, gender mainstreaming and ICT for development

20. The Committee will have before it for noting a report (TRADE/2003/15) on the activities carried out under its work programme that support the following cross-sectoral activities which the General Assembly has requested be taken into account in all work programmes of the United Nations:
   • Sustainable Development
   • Gender mainstreaming
   • Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) to support development
   • World Summit on the Information Society.

Item 16 - Cooperation with other organizations in support of the work programme

21. For information, the secretariat has prepared for the Committee a report on the activities it has carried out (TRADE/2003/16) in cooperation with other organizations, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the other regional commissions of the United Nations and the World Trade Organization (WTO).
POLICY SEGMENT

Item 17 - Policy Segment
“Strategies to Enhance Trade Facilitation Implementation in UNECE Member States”

The secretariat and representatives of a number of national trade facilitation organizations will give short presentations on effective strategies for increasing the implementation of trade facilitation Recommendations and related measures, as well as for building capacity at a national level. These presentations will be followed by an open discussion.

22. The secretariat has prepared a background paper to the Policy Segment for discussion and possible decision (TRADE/2003/17) as well as a questionnaire which is being used for a survey on national implementation of trade facilitation recommendations (TRADE/2003/18).

CONCLUSIONS FROM THE CHAIR OF THE FORUM AND FOLLOW-UP

Item 18 - Conclusions from the Chair of the second International Forum on Trade Facilitation, and Follow-up

23. The Committee will have before it, for discussion and noting, a set of conclusions (ECE/TRADE/NONE/2003/4) from the Chair of the second International Forum on Trade Facilitation, which will take place on 14 and 15 May. On the basis of these conclusions, the Committee may decide if there are any follow-up activities that it or its subsidiary bodies might wish to undertake. The Committee will also have before it, for noting, the Forum programme (TRADE/2003/19) and background documents (TRADE/2003/20, TRADE/2003/21, TRADE/2003/22 and TRADE/2003/23) that may contain some items for approval.

OTHER BUSINESS

Item 19 - Other business

- Dates of the next session

24. The dates of the eighth session should be agreed.
• Topics for 2004 and 2005 forums and policy segments

25. After consultation with the Bureau, the secretariat has drawn up, for approval, proposals for the 2004 and 2005 forums and policy segments (TRADE/2003/24).

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

Item 20 - Adoption of the report

26. In accordance with established practice, the Committee will adopt its report on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat.

* * * * *
Annex I

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

DAY ONE, Wednesday, 14 May 2003

8:30 Registration
9:30 Opening Session

Ms. Brigita SCHMÖGNEROVÁ
Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

Mr. SUPACHAI Panichpakdi
Director-General, World Trade Organization (WTO)

Mr. Rubens RICUPERO
Secretary-General, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

Session I: How to achieve benefits for all from trade facilitation?
Chairperson:
Mr. Mondher ZNAIDI
Minister of Tourism, Trade and Handicrafts
Tunisia
Rapporteur:
Prof. Henri SCHWAMM
Honorary Professor of Economics
University of Geneva

Speakers:
Sharing the gains of globalization
Mr. Pascal LAMY
Trade Commissioner, European Commission

Trade facilitation and Globalization
Dr. Boutros Boutros GHALI
Former Secretary General of the United Nations

Trade facilitation in the new security environment – the perspective of South-eastern Europe
Mr. Nikolay VASSILEV
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy, Bulgaria

Trade facilitation in the multilateral trade negotiations
Mr. Roderick ABBOTT
Deputy Director-General, World Trade Organization (WTO)

Practical measures for future trade facilitation
Mr. Alberto Di LISCIA
Assistant Director-General, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), and Director of the UNIDO Geneva Office

The need for a rules-based foundation: everyone’s contribution matters
Mr. Matt ROHDE
United States Trade Representative’s office

Costs and benefits of trade facilitation
Mr. Anthony KLEITZ
Head, Trade Liberalisation and Review Division, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

The economic impact of trade facilitation measures
Mr. John WILSON
Principal Economist, Development Research Group, The World Bank

Discussion paper:
Income distribution impact of trade facilitation
Mr. Adrian HEWITT
Senior Research Fellow, Director of the ODI Fellowship Scheme and Research Adviser to the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Overseas Development, United Kingdom

13:15 – 15:00 LUNCH BREAK

Workshop on IPR and trade facilitation: “Identifying the Roadblocks”

Co-organized by the UN Economic Commission for Europe, the European Patent Office and SMG Consulting, Sweden
Chairperson:
Mr. Zoran JOLEVSKI, Chef de Cabinet of the President of the FYR Macedonia
Rapporteur:
Mr. Eskil ULLBERG, Senior Consultant, SMG Consulting
Panelists:
Mr. Ulrich SCHATZ, European Patent Office
Mr. David MARSH, UN/CEFACT
Mr. Mario APOSTOLOV, UNECE
Session II: Trade facilitation policy and new security initiatives

Chairperson: Mr. Maxim MEDVEDKOV
Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Trade, Russian Federation

Rapporteur: The World Customs Organization (WCO)

Trade facilitation in the new security environment
Mr. Douglas BROWNING
Deputy Commissioner, US Customs

The industry response to the new challenge
(To be announced)

The Jordanian experience in trade and security
To be confirmed

The balance between trade facilitation and heightened security measures in customs
Mr. Kunio MIKURIYA
Deputy Secretary-General, World Customs Organization (WCO)

Discussion paper:

18:30 COCKTAIL RECEPTION
at the Restaurant des Délégués, Palais des Nations, 8th fl. All participants are invited
DAY TWO, Thursday 15 May 2003

8:30 – 9:30

**Seminar on UNEDocs: Towards a Global Standard for Electronic Trade Documents**

*Presentations by:*
- UN Economic Commission for Europe
- Universal Postal Union
- Simpler Trade Procedures Board (SITPRO), UK
- Microsoft
- Adobe

**Session III: Mechanisms of Cooperation:**

The role of the business community

*Chairperson:*
Ms. Maria LIVANOS CATTAUI
Secretary-General, International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)

*Rapporteur:*
(To be decided)

*Speakers:*
- How to achieve maximum trade facilitation in a regulatory environment
  - Mr. Rolf JEKER
  - Société Générale de Surveillance SA (SGS)
- Mr. Patrick GANNON
  - Chief Executive Officer, Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Systems

13:15 – 14:30  LUNCH BREAK

**Session IV: Round Table on Open Regionalism**

*Chairperson:*
Prof. Jagdish BHAGWATI
Columbia University

*The UNECE experience in trade facilitation*
- Ms. Carol COSGROVE-SACKS, Director, Trade Development and Timber Division, Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)

*The role of ESCWA in promoting trade facilitation*
- Mr. Nabil SAFWAT
  - Chief, Transport Section, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

*The role of ECLAC in promoting trade facilitation*

*The role of ESCAP in promoting trade facilitation and simplification of port procedures*
- Mr. Barry CABLE
  - Director, Transport and Tourism Division, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

*The role of ECA in promoting trade facilitation*

**CHAIRMAN’S CONCLUSIONS**
Prof. Jagdish BHAGWATI
Columbia University

**Closing remarks:**
Ms. Brigita SCHMÖGNEROVÁ
Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

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Study on the position and reservations of selected developing countries on the inclusion of trade facilitation in the WTO multilateral trade negotiations (DFID)

This paper, based on interviews with key officials of a representative set of developing countries, attempts to understand the economic, political and legal reasons for these countries’ concerns on the inclusion of trade facilitation in WTO negotiations. It suggests options for dealing with these concerns.

END OF FORUM: 18:00 on 15 May 2003
The Forum will be held with simultaneous interpretation in English, French and Russian. There are no fees for registration. Participants are responsible for arranging their own travel and hotel accommodation.

As places are limited, completed registration forms should be sent as soon as possible and no later than Monday, 28 April 2003 to:

Mrs. Dominique Rames  
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe  
Tel.: (+41 22) 917 2481  
Fax: (+41 22) 917 0037  
E-mail: dominique.rames@unece.org

If you require an entry visa for Switzerland, please send an e-mail to (dominique.rames@unece.org), indicating your date of arrival to Switzerland, date of departure from Switzerland and the fax number as well as the postal address of the Swiss Embassy closest to you (see http://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/e/home.html)

For further information and hotel reservations, please see the website:  
http://www.unece.org/forums

Please consult the web page of the Forum as soon as possible for preferential hotel rates:  
http://www.unece.org/trade/forums/forum02/registration/hotel_info.htm

Security at the Palais des Nations has been significantly increased. Participants must first obtain their personal security badges, which will have been already prepared at the Villa Les Feuillantines, located near the Palais des Nations (see attached map), and only then they can be allowed to enter the United Nations premises.

Therefore participants are requested to complete the Conference Registration Form overleaf and return it to the secretariat not later than 30 April 2003. An electronic version of the Form can be downloaded from www.unece.org/forums

The venue of the meeting will be announced later.

Enquiries should be addressed to the Forum Coordinator:

Mario Apostolov  
Trade Development and Timber Division, Office 437  
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe  
Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10

Tel. (+41 22) 917 11 34  
Fax. (+41 22) 917 00 37  
E-mail: mario.apostolov@unece.org
# UNECE TRADE FACILITATION WEEK

## REGISTRATION FORM

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<tr>
<th>Participant</th>
<th>Family Name</th>
<th>First Name</th>
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I am representing:

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<th>the Government of:</th>
<th>a United Nations Organization</th>
<th>an Intergovernmental Organization (IGO)</th>
<th>a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) (ECOSOC accredited)</th>
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<td>Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td>NGOs (Not ECOSOC accredited)</td>
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<td>Private Sector</td>
<td>Other organizations, agencies, etc</td>
<td>Myself as a private citizen</td>
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(To be completed by Governmental delegation only)

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<th>Plenary session of the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)</th>
<th>Head of Delegation</th>
<th>12 and 13 May 2003</th>
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<th>Annual session of the Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development (CTIED)</th>
<th>Head of Delegation</th>
<th>13 and 16 May 2003</th>
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<th>International Forum on Trade Facilitation</th>
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<th>14 and 15 May 2003</th>
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<tr>
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<th>Country:</th>
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</table>

| Address in Geneva: |

## VISA Section

If you require an entry visa for Switzerland, please send an e-mail to dominique.rames@unece.org indicating your date of arrival in Switzerland, date of departure from Switzerland and the fax number as well as the postal address of the Swiss Embassy closest to you (see [http://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/e/home.html](http://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/e/home.html))

Dates for which the visa is needed:

From ______________________________

To ______________________________