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**Workshop on**

**Implementing Provisions**

**of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement**

**(focus on streamlining formalities**

**and documentary procedures)**

**Kyiv, Ukraine**

October 25, 2018

Radisson Blu Hotel, 17-19 Bratska St.

***Sponsored by***

**United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)**

**U.S. Department of Commerce**

**Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP)**

**U.S. Embassy Kyiv**

***In cooperation with***

**Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine (MEDT)**

**Ukrainian National Trade Facilitation Committee (NTFC)**

**Ukrainian National Committee of the International Chamber of Commerce**

 **UKRZOVNESHTRANS Association**

**Participants**: all stakeholders in trade facilitation in Ukraine and international partners working with Ukraine on trade facilitation implementation.

**Note:** This workshop builds on years of work in support of trade facilitation projects in Ukraine and the results of the UNECE-supported assessment of the readiness of Ukraine to implement the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA). It aims at enhancing the capacity of national stakeholders, notably, the NTFC, to achieve trade facilitation with a focus on streamlining documentary procedures through using international trade facilitation standards, developing further the enabling environment for Single Window, and measuring progress in implementation. The seminar will use earlier analyses of the readiness to implement the TFA, to provide a vision for holistic trade facilitation reform. The seminar will look at the needs of Ukraine, notably its SMEs. As part of a UNECE project under the United Nations Development Account, the seminar aims at assisting the functioning of the Ukrainian National Trade Facilitation Committee (NTFC) in streamlining formalities and documentary procedures (TFA art. 10.1) and implementing three other areas covered by the TFA: use of international trade facilitation standards (art. 10.3); building an enabling environment for Single Window (art. 10.4); and support for the functioning of the National Trade Facilitation Committee (art. 23.2). The seminar will use the wealth of materials and experience of UNECE in trade facilitation. The training will involve concrete proposals for actual work on the proposed topics and an outline of how to develop a national mechanism for monitoring and measuring progress in trade facilitation, which would be supported by the NTFC as part of a national roadmap for trade facilitation.

The seminar will assist the ongoing efforts of Ukraine to develop a national trade facilitation programme, now using the platform of the NTFC. Speakers from the relevant regulatory bodies and the business community of Ukraine, as well as UNECE, CLDP, and other development partners will highlight how the NTFC can act as a platform for implementing the highlighted measures of trade facilitation.

**AGENDA**

**08:30 – 09:00 Registration**

**09:00 – 09:40** **Meeting of the National Trade Facilitation Committee**

**09:40 – 09:50** **Welcome and presentation of the agenda**

Vyacheslav Tsymbal, Chair, National Trade Facilitation Committee

Mario Apostolov, Regional Adviser, Economic Cooperation and Trade Division, UNECE

Gregg Young, Commercial Law Development programme (CLDP)

**Session I: National Trade Facilitation Committee (NTFC): streamlining documentary procedures**

**Moderator: Vyacheslav Tsymbal**

**09:50 – 10:30 NTFC and its role in streamlining formalities and documentary procedures**

**09:50 – 10:05** *Mario Apostolov, UNECE*

**10:05 – 10:20** *Oleg Platonov, NTFC business community representative*

**10:20 – 10:30** *Discussion*

**10:30 – 10:40** *Coffee Break*

**Session II: Streamlining Formalities and Documentary Procedures (TFA art. 10.1) – creating an enabling environment for a single window**

**Moderator: Vyacheslav Tsymbal or Lance Thompson**

**10:40 – 11:10 State of Play of the Ukrainian national Single Window project**

**10:40** *–* **10:50** *Representative of Ukraine’s Ministry of Finance*

**10:50 – 11:00** *Representative of Ukraine’s State Fiscal Service*

**11:00 – 11:10** *Representative of the business community*

**11:10 – 11:25 UNECE instruments for the Single Window**

*Lance Thompson, UNECE*

**11:25 – 12:15** **Streamlining formalities and documentary procedures - introduction**

*Lance Thompson, UNECE*

**12:15 – 12:45 Streamlining formalities**

*CLDP*

**12:45 – 13:00** *Discussion*

**13:00 – 13:45** *Lunch Break*

**13:45 – 14:25 Legal and other aspects of streamlining formalities and procedures**

*William Scopa, US CBP*

**14:25 – 14:50** **Use of the UNCEFACT trade facilitation standards to streamline formalities and documentary procedures**

*Lance Thompson, UNECE*

**14:50 – 15:15** **Tools for streamlining formalities and documentary procedures: e.g. Business Process Analysis (BPA) and data harmonization, standardization (TFA art. 10.3)**

*Mario Apostolov, UNECE*

**15:15 – 15:30** *Discussion*

**15:30 – 15:40***Coffee Break*

**Session III: Developing a National Trade Facilitation Monitoring and Measuring Mechanism**

**Moderator: Vyacheslav Tsymbal or Mario Apostolov**

**15:40 – 16:05 NTFC’s role in building a trade facilitation monitoring and measuring mechanism (Recommendation 42)**

*Mario Apostolov, UNECE*

*Alexander Fedorov*, CEO PPL 33-35;

**16:05 – 16:30** **Trade facilitation monitoring and measuring mechanism and TF strategy development – a way forward**

*Mario Apostolov, UNECE*

*Comments: MEDT, CLDP, NTFC, William Scopa, US CBP*

**16:30 – 17:00** **Closing session and recommended next steps**

*Comments: MEDT, CLDP, UNECE, William Scopa, US CBP*

*Discussion*

*On 24 October, UNECE and some members of the NTFC will organize a working meeting on the National Trade Facilitation Monitoring and Measuring Mechanism. Interested stakeholders are invited to indicate their interest to the organizers to participate in this working meeting.*