

## Public Procurement – promotion of “sustainability” or a barrier to trade ?

(presentation from  
UNECE Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and  
Standardization Policies -WP.6 )

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## UNECE Working Party 6 mandate: to eliminate TBTs and facilitate trade and market access through:

- › regulatory convergence
- › good regulatory and CA practices
- › promotion/use of standards
- › market surveillance/consumer protection
- › recommendations to Governments
- › (“International Model”=good regulatory practice)

and *Dialogue*: governments and industry



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## Standardization and Regulatory Framework

- › standards (technical performance; industry);
- › technical regulations (safety, ecology, etc; governments);
- › conformity assessment (testing; certification: mandatory and voluntary; SDoC)

Public procurement and good practices



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## Standards, Regulatory and CA principles (WTO/TBT)

- › non discriminatory;
- › transparent;
- › based on international standards, guides, etc;
- › openness , impartiality ;
- › effectiveness and reliability;
- › coherence/ economic dimension;
- › acceptance of equivalence



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## Procurement and Timber

- › good practices (in general)
- › clear message for industry on needs and criteria (sustainability principles, “legal” logging, etc.)
- › to verify compliance (non-discrimination of schemes)
- › impartiality and/or control ? (assess schemes ? misleading labelling, etc.)



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## Issues for further discussion

- › Is there a need for an advice for public procurement on sustainable (or not) products (timber, chemicals, recycling factors, etc.) ?
- › Possible elements for such recommendations (see WTO principles)
- › Role for UNECE and its sectoral Committees (Timber and others)



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**For more information contact**

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