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DEVELOPMENTS BY EXPERT GROUPS: DELIVERABLES AND PRIORITIES

APPROVAL OF NEW AND UPDATED RECOMMENDATIONS

**Recommendation No. 23 “Freight Cost Code – FCC Harmonization of the Description of
Freight Costs and Other Charges” Revision 6***

Note by the Secretariat*

Summary

The fifth session of UN/CEFACT in 1999 approved the recommendation of its Steering Group to delegate the authority for maintenance of the code lists associated with UN/CEFACT Recommendations to the Code Working Group. This authorization was transferred to the Information Content Management Group (ICG) in the reorganization of UN/CEFACT's structure in 2003.

The ICG approved Revision 6¹ of the code list in March 2008 and is submitting these updated lists to the Plenary for information.

*This document was submitted late due to resource constraints.

¹ Earlier versions of Recommendation No. 23 include Revision 5 (CEFACT/ICG/2007/IC011, 2007), Revision 4 (CEFACT/ICG/2007/IC004, 2007) Revision 3 (CEFACT/ICG/2007/IC001, 2007) Revision 2 (CEFACT/ICG/2006/- IC002, 2006) Revision 1 (TRADE/CEFACT/ICG/2003/IC002, 2003) and the original Recommendation No. 23 (ECE/TRADE/170, 1990). These documents can be downloaded from UN/CEFACT's website (http://www.unece.org/cefact/recommendations/rec_index.htm).

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The United Nations, through its Centre for the Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT), supports activities dedicated to improving the ability of business, trade and administrative organisations, from developed, developing and transitional economies, to exchange products and relevant services effectively. Its principal focus is to facilitate international transactions, through the simplification and harmonization of procedures and information flows.²

2. The UN/CEFACT work programme emphasizes the need for developing recommendations, which simplify and harmonize the current practices and procedures used in international transactions. Within this context, the role of the UN/CEFACT Information Content Management Group (ICG) is to secure the quality, relevance and availability of code sets and code structures to support the objectives of UN/CEFACT, including managing the maintenance of UNECE Recommendations related to codes. The ICG prepared this latest revision of the code list for Recommendation No. 23³. Information provided in this Recommendation, including in its associated annexes, is provided “as is”, without warranty of any kind, either express or implied, including, without limitation, warranties of merchantability, fitness for a specific purpose and non-infringement. UN/CEFACT specifically does not make any warranties or representations as to the accuracy or completeness of any information published in this Recommendation. Under no circumstances shall UN/CEFACT be liable for any loss, damage, or expense incurred or suffered that is claimed to have resulted from the use of this Recommendation. The use of this Recommendation is at the user’s sole risk.

3. The current revision supersedes and replaces the code list released with the fifth revision of Recommendation No. 23⁴ approved by the ICG, in September 2007.

II. CODE LIST PRESENTATION

4. The code list is presented with the following columns:

Change indicator (CI)

a plus sign (+) for an addition

a hash sign (#) for changes to the code description

a letter X (X) for marked for deletion in this edition

(will not appear in the next edition).

² From the mission statement of UN/CEFACT.

³ Information provided in this Recommendation, including in its associated annexes, is provided “as is”, without warranty of any kind, either express or implied, including, without limitation, warranties of merchantability, fitness for a specific purpose and non-infringement. UN/CEFACT specifically does not make any warranties or representations as to the accuracy or completeness of any information published in this Recommendation. Under no circumstances shall UN/CEFACT be liable for any loss, damage, or expense incurred or suffered that is claimed to have resulted from the use of this Recommendation. The use of this Recommendation is at the user’s sole risk.

⁴ CEFACT/ICG/2007/IC011.

Group

Level 1 code. 1 digit designation of the main cost heading category.

Subgroup

Level 2 code. 2 digit designation of the general cost description within a cost heading category.

Detail

Level 3 code. 3 digit designation of the detailed cost description within a general cost description.

Description

Cost code description.

Mode/Site Indicator

Character indication of a specific mode of transport or a type of handling site:

- (a) Maritime transport
- (b) Maritime transport deep sea
- (c) Maritime transport feeder service
- (d) Maritime transport ro/ro service
- (e) Maritime transport short sea
- (f) Rail transport
- (g) Road transport
- (h) Air transport
- (i) Mail
- (j) Multimodal/Combined transport
- (k) Fixed transport installations
- (l) Inland water transport
- (m) BB Handling Site: Terminal operation
- (n) DD Handling Site: Ship's agent
- (o) FF Handling Site: Freight forwarder/forwarding agent.

Duplicate Indicator

In order to uniquely identify each code entry in the code list, the following values may be combined to provide the unique key:

- (a) Level 1 Code
- (b) Level 2 Code
- (c) Level 3 Code
- (d) Duplicate Indicator.

5. The Duplicate Indicator is a combination of the letter “D” and a sequence number, starting at 1 and incremented by 1 for each subsequent duplicate entry. Duplication occurs when there are multiple entries with identical Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 code values.

6. Reference should be made to the body text of Recommendation No. 23 (ECE/TRADE/170) for further information and examples concerning the structure and utilization of the code list.

III. MAINTENANCE AND UPDATING

7. Recommendation No. 23 is maintained on behalf of UN/CEFACT by the UN/CEFACT Information Content Management Group (ICG).

8. Proposals for updating this Recommendation should be addressed to the Trade Facilitation Section, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland; or by email (cefact@unece.org).

9. Draft revisions to the body text and/or code list of this Recommendation shall be issued by the Information Content Management Group (ICG) when required and shall be made available on the ICG website (<http://www.uncefactforum.org/icg>).

10. Draft revisions shall be subject to a public comment period of at least two months. UN/CEFACT Heads of Delegation shall be notified of the availability of a draft revision and the period for comment. Following the conclusion of the comment period, the Information Content Management Group (ICG) shall address all comments received. Depending on the comments received, the ICG shall issue a new draft edition for comment or shall prepare a final edition for approval.

11. Final revisions to the body text of this Recommendation shall be approved by the UN/CEFACT Plenary and shall be made available on the UN/CEFACT website (<http://www.unece.org/cefact>).

12. Final revisions to the code lists of this Recommendation shall be approved by the Information Content Management Group (ICG) Plenary and notified to the UN/CEFACT Plenary. These revisions shall be made available on the UN/CEFACT website.
