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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

COMMITTEE ON TRADE

Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business

Fourteenth session  
Geneva, 16 – 17 September 2008  
Item 5 of the provisional agenda

**DEVELOPMENTS BY EXPERT GROUPS: DELIVERABLES AND PRIORITIES**

**REVISION 6: ANNEXES V AND VI TO THE RECOMMENDATION NO. 21  
CODES FOR PASSENGERS,  
TYPES OF CARGO, PACKAGES AND PACKAGING MATERIALS**

Note by the Secretariat\*

*Summary*

The fifth session of UN/CEFACT approved in 1999 the recommendation of the UN/CEFACT 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 structure in 2003.

The ICG approved the latest code lists<sup>1</sup> in March 2008 and is submitting these to the Plenary for information.

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\*This document was submitted late due to resource constraint.

<sup>1</sup> The code lists can be downloaded from the ICG's website (<http://www.uncefactforum.org/ICG>). Previous versions of Recommendation No. 21 include: Revision 5, CEFACT/ICG/2006/IC003, annexes V and VI; Revision 4, ECE/TRADE/309, annexes V and VI; Revision 3, TRADE/CEFACT/2001/21, annexes V and VI; Revision 2, ECE/TRADE/211 and Revision 1, ECE/TRADE/195 and these can also be found on UN/CEFACT's web site ([http://www.unece.org/cefact/recommendations/rec\\_index.htm](http://www.unece.org/cefact/recommendations/rec_index.htm)).

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. The United Nations, through its Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT), supports activities dedicated to improving the ability of business, trade and administrative organizations, from developed, developing and transitional economies, to exchange products and relevant services effectively. Its principal focus is on facilitating national and international transactions, through the simplification and harmonization of processes, procedures and information flows, and so contribute to the growth of global commerce.<sup>2</sup>

2. The UN/CEFACT work programme emphasises 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 UN/ECE Recommendations related to codes. The ICG prepared this latest revision of the code list for Recommendation No. 21.<sup>3</sup>

3. The attached revision supersedes and replaces the code list released as the fifth revision of Recommendation No. 21, Annex V and Annex VI<sup>4</sup>, approved by the ICG, in March 2006.

## II. CODE LIST PRESENTATION

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

### **Change indicator (CI)**

An indication of the maintenance status of individual entries in the code list.

A plus sign (+) Added. New unit added in this release of the code list.

A hash sign (#) Changed name. Changes to the unit name in this release of the code list.

A vertical bar (|) Changed characteristic(s). Changes other than to the unit name in this release of the code list, e.g. a change to the numeric code.

A letter X (X) Marked as deleted. Code entries marked as deleted will be retained indefinitely in the code lists. When appropriate, these entries may subsequently be reinstated via the maintenance process.

An equals Reinstated. Code entries previously.

Sign (=) Marked as deleted and reinstated in this release of the code list.

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<sup>2</sup> From the mission statement of UN/CEFACT.

<sup>3</sup> All 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.

<sup>4</sup> In ICG’s document CEFACT/ICG/2006/IC003.

**Code**

Two character alphanumeric code value

**Code name**

Code value name

**Numeric code value**

Two digit numeric code value as represented by the pictorial symbols in Annex IV of Recommendation No. 21.

**III. MAINTENANCE AND UPDATING**

5. Recommendation No. 21 is maintained on behalf of UN/CEFACT by the by the UN/CEFACT Information Content Management Group (ICG).

6. 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](mailto:cefact@unece.org)).

7. Draft revisions to the body text and/or code list of this Recommendation shall be issued by the ICG when required and shall be made available on the ICG web site (<http://www.uncefactforum.org/ICG>).

8. Draft revisions shall be subject to a public comment period of at least 2 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 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.

9. 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>).

10. Final revisions to the code lists of this Recommendation shall be approved by the ICG Plenary and notified to the UN/CEFACT Plenary. These revisions shall be made available on the UN/CEFACT Web site.

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