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| UN logo 128**UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE** | **ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION** |
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**Joint UNECE - BSEC Seminar on Trade Facilitation and Single Window Interoperability**

21 September 2017

Venue: Headquarters of BSEC, Istanbul

**agenda**

8:30 Registration

 9:00 – 9:15 **Welcome address**

Amb. Traian Chebeleu, Deputy Secretary General, BSEC Permanent International Secretariat,

Mario Apostolov, Regional Adviser, UNECE

Moderators: Amb. Traian Chebeleu, and Mario Apostolov, ECE

9:15 – 10:00 **Session 1: Trade Facilitation and Single Window Projects in the BSEC Region**

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| This session will introduce the concept of Single Window as a key instrument for trade facilitation, notably in light of the entry into force of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement on 22.02.2017, as well as the objectives of the seminar in promoting interoperability of Single Window already in the steps of building Single Window mechanisms in the BSEC region.  |

Speakers:

* Mr. Mario Apostolov, Regional Adviser, UNECE. *The Single Window concept in the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement; Step-by-step development of a Single Window*
* Mr. Kanan Mutuzov, Executive Manager, Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, Permanent International Secretariat: *Expected outcome and recommendations from the seminar*
* Mr. Lokman Comart, Assistant Expert, DG of Risk Management and Control, Ministry of Customs and Trade, Directorate General for the EU and External Relations: *Turkey’s Experience in Implementation of the Single Window*

10:15 – 10:30 *Coffee break*

10:30 – 13:30 **Session 2:** **Interoperability of Single Window mechanisms and Port Community Systems in the Black Sea region; Principles of Data Harmonization**

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| **This session will review:** **Interoperability** of Single Window mechanisms in the BSEC region:* Principles of interoperability: use of international standards; governance; and legal issues to be taken into account,
* Data harmonization

**International best practice recommendations, norms and standards:**BSEC, UNECE, etc. WCO The **results of this session** will include:* Recommendations for the implementation of Port Community and Single Window Systems in the region;
* Approaches to ensure coordination of efforts among all stakeholders for the implementation of a Single Window.

**Objective**: exchange experiences among states and regional economic unions in the BSEC region on the state of play in the implementation of trade facilitation and Single Window projects. Exchange experiences on the steps that are taken in the various projects, with a view to learn from each other.  |

Speakers:

* Mr Lance Thompson, Economic Affairs Officer, UNECE. *UNCEFACT Recommendation 36: Single Window Interoperability - main principles, use of international standards, governance and legal issues in the BSEC context.*
* Mr Armen Manukyan, Technical Attaché, Compliance and Facilitation Directorate, World Customs Organization: *WCO standards for data exchange and Single Window interoperability*
* Mr Zahouani Saadaoui, DG TAXUD, European Commission: Outline of the European Commission’s work on the Single Window and data harmonization
* Mr Igbal Babayev, Chief of Department for Statistics and IT, State Customs Committee of Azerbaijan, *Single Window system in Azerbaijan, use of international standards for data exchange*
* Mr Alexandr Fedorov, Director General PPL 33-35, Ukraine, *The Port Community System in Odessa: A pilot project and best-practice example for the Black Sea Region*
* Mr. Vladislav Svet Head of Organization of Customs Control and Trade Facilitation Division, Customs, Republic of Moldova. *On the Single Window project in Moldova and Single Window Interoperability*

Discussion

13:30 – 14:30 **Closing Session and Recommendations***:*

* *Establish dialogue in the BSEC framework on interoperability of Single Window mechanisms*
* *Further exchange information on standards used for document and data exchange; Single Window planning and implementation; business process analysis; streamlining documentary formalities; and creating an enabling legal environment for Single Window*
* *If needed, plan developing technical recommendations for Single Window interoperability*

14:30 – 15:00 *Lunch break*

15:00 – 18:00 Joint meeting of the BSEC Working Groups on Trade and Development and Customs, to discuss the BSEC regional trade facilitation strategy.