

Summary of the Eighth Virtual Meeting of the Technical Working Group (TWG) of the Interim Intergovernmental Steering Group on Cross-border Paperless Trade Facilitation

- **Date and Time: 9 March 2016, 13:00 (Bangkok time)**
- **Agenda**
 - 1) Roll call
 - 2) Adoption of agenda
 - 3) Review of progress made in TWG tasks
 - 4) Tentative agenda for the TWG breakout session of 3rd meeting of the LTWG
 - 5) Any other business
- **Participants**
 - 1) Mr. Hisanao Sugamata
 - 2) Mr. Seung Hyun Cha
 - 3) Mr. Tahseen Khan
 - 4) Mr. Sangwon Lim (secretariat)
- **Major discussions**
 - ✓ The meeting discussion was facilitated by the secretariat with absence of any chair or vice-chairs.
 - ✓ The meeting adopted the agenda without any changes.
 - ✓ The meeting discussed progress made in TWG tasks by reviewing Section 3 of the document “Preparation of a draft road map for the implementation of substantive provisions in the draft text of the regional arrangement for the facilitation of cross-border paperless trade¹”, which is an official document for the upcoming second meeting of the Interim Intergovernmental Steering Group.
 - ✓ Mr. Sugamata informed the meeting that he did not receive any further inputs on his revised draft, and sought further comments from the TWG members. Mr. Khan mentioned a need to revise it in a way to make it beginner-friendly. Mr. Khan promised to provide his specific suggestions to Mr. Sugamata for incorporation.
 - ✓ The meeting reviewed the tentative agenda for the TWG breakout session of 3rd meeting of the LTWG. The secretariat informed the meeting that afternoon sessions of 21 and 22 March would be conducted also virtually using the WebEx to accommodate participation of those members who cannot join the meeting physically. The secretariat sought virtual participation of Mr. Sugamata and Mr. Khan during relevant virtual sessions, to which they kindly agreed.

¹ The document is available at: http://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/pre-ods/EPTAISG2_3E.pdf

- ✓ The secretariat informed the meeting that it would circulate a revised explanatory note to the draft text of regional arrangement, seeking comments and suggestions for possible improvement
- ✓ The secretariat raised a need for possible discussion among chair and vice-chairs of the TWG on rebalancing of coordination tasks allocated to the vice-chairs, considering that some vice-chairs might find difficulty in carrying out their tasks, which would affect timely delivery.
- ✓ The secretariat informed the meeting that it would announce WebEx access information for the upcoming 3rd Meeting of the LTWG in the middle of next week.
- ✓ The secretariat closed the meeting with thanks to the participating members.