



Economic and Social Council

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Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

First session of the Paperless Trade Council of the Framework Agreement
on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific

Bangkok and online, 27–29 April 2022

Annotated provisional agenda

The present document contains the provisional agenda for the first session of the Paperless Trade Council of the Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific (section I) and the annotations thereto (section II).

I. Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the session:
 - (a) Opening statements;
 - (b) Election of officers;
 - (c) Adoption of the agenda.
2. Operation of the Council and its subsidiary bodies.
3. Development of plans for the implementation of the Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific.
4. Consideration of proposal to amend the Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific.
5. Other matters.
6. Adoption of the report of the Council on its first session.

II. Annotations

1. Opening of the session

(a) Opening statements

A senior official from the secretariat will open the session and deliver an opening statement.

The programme for the session will be available online at www.unescap.org/events/2022/first-session-paperless-trade-council-framework-agreement-facilitation-cross-border.

(b) Election of officers

The Council will elect a chair and vice-chairs.

The list of participants will be available online at www.unescap.org/events/2022/first-session-paperless-trade-council-framework-agreement-facilitation-cross-border.

(c) Adoption of the agenda

Documentation

Annotated provisional agenda (ESCAP/PTA/PTC(1)/2022/L.1)

Annotation

The provisional agenda will be considered and adopted by the Council, subject to such changes as may be necessary.

2. Operation of the Council and its subsidiary bodies

Documentation

Rules of procedure and terms of reference of the Paperless Trade Council (ESCAP/PTA/PTC(1)/2022/1)

Rules of procedure and terms of reference of the Standing Committee of the Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/PTA/PTC(1)/2022/2)

Annotation

The Council will adopt the rules of procedure and terms of reference of the Paperless Trade Council and the Standing Committee, as specified in article 11 of the Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific. The draft rules of procedure and terms of reference of the Paperless Trade Council and the Standing Committee were prepared by the secretariat on the basis of the documentation and discussions of the meetings of the Interim Intergovernmental Steering Group on Cross-border Paperless Trade Facilitation and its Legal and Technical Working Groups. The Council may also wish to discuss operational issues related to its subsidiary bodies, including the dates of the Standing Committee meetings in 2022 and the establishment of working groups.

3. Development of plans for the implementation of the Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific

Documentation

Preparatory work of the Interim Intergovernmental Steering Group on Cross-border Paperless Trade Facilitation (ESCAP/PTA/PTC(1)/2022/3)

Review of tasks for the implementation of the Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/PTA/PTC(1)/2022/4)

Annotation

The Council will review the work carried out by the Interim Intergovernmental Steering Group on Cross-border Paperless Trade Facilitation to prepare for the implementation of the substantive provisions of the Framework Agreement and discuss the development of action plans in that regard.

The Council may wish to discuss actions that may be taken to facilitate the participation of interested member States in the Framework Agreement and to encourage their accession thereto.

4. Consideration of proposal to amend the Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific

Documentation

Proposal to amend the Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/PTA/PTC(1)/2022/5)

Annotation

The Council may wish to consider amending the Framework Agreement by adding the translation in the French language as an authentic version (article 25) to facilitate the accession of French-speaking member States.

5. Other matters

The Council may wish to consider other matters not covered under the items mentioned above.

6. Adoption of the report of the Council on its first session

Documentation

Draft report (ESCAP/PTA/PTC(1)/2022/L.2)

Annotation

The Council will consider and adopt the report on its first session for submission to the Commission at its seventy-eighth session.
