EXPERT SURVEY ON THE FUTURE OF TRADE FACILITATION

INTRODUCTION

Dear Expert,

This survey aims to gather experts' opinions on developing a future and forward-looking agenda for trade facilitation. Following the first section on basic information about yourself, the survey contains questions on assessing the current situation and forward-looking priorities on pertinent topics and emerging areas of trade facilitation.

Results will only be reported in aggregate, and names of respondents will not be disclosed (unless you specifically agree to let us acknowledge your participation in this exercise).

Please do not hesitate to contact Leonila Guglya leonilla.guglya@gmail.com with a copy to Soo Hyun Kim kim51@un.org for additional information or in case you have questions / need further.

A. EXPERT INFORMATION

1. Basic Information
   Title:
   First and Last Name:
   Current position:
   Current organization:
   Country:
   Email:

2. Expertise
   Total years of experience in the trade facilitation implementation:
   Main areas of expertise:

B. OVERALL ASSESSMENT OF THE STATUS OF TRADE FACILITATION IMPLEMENTATION

a. Time, predictability, and costs

Time, predictability, and costs of completion of different stages of the international trade process

Please assess the time, predictability, and costs of completion of each stage of the international trade process overall and for each country group at a scale from 0 to 3.

Optional: choose a specific product group to make your assessment more concrete

Value chain segment	**COUNTRY GROUP**	**"BUY"**	**"SHIP"**				**"PAY"**
International trade processes - Scope (non-exhaustive overview)	DE – developed economies; DC – developing countries; LDCs – least developed countries	Contracting, including electronic transactions and electronic trust services	OGAs / Licensing and Permits, including the Single Window implementation and at the border clearance by the OGAs (both exportation and importation)	Customs clearance, incl. advanced ruling, advanced submission of documents and post-clearance audit	Transport and logistics, incl. port-, dry port-, corridor-., warehouse management, transit, and route management for domestic flow of cargo	Other measures (AEO implementation, etc.) – please specify	Payments and trade finance
3. **Time**: from 1 (not time-consuming), to 3 (most time-consuming); 0 – do not know / cannot assess	DE						
	DC						
	LDCs						
4. **Predictability**: from 1 (very predictable) to 3 (very unpredictable); 0 – do not know / cannot assess	DE						
	DC						
	LDCs						
5. **Costs**: from 1 (not costly) to 3 (very costly); 0 – do not know / cannot assess	DE						
	DC						
	LDCs						

[COMMENTS]

b. Priorities

6. Prioritization of work in the future trade facilitation areas

Please tick the top five (5) work areas that should be prioritized during the next 5 years overall and for each country group. Please see section C below for details of each work area.

Work areas for future trade facilitation	Top five (5) priority areas for the future trade facilitation agenda within the next five (5) years for each of the country groups			
	Overall	DE (developed economies)	DC (developing countries)	LDCs (least developed countries)
Utilization of emerging technologies (blockchain, AI, etc.)				
Climate-smart (green) trade facilitation				
E-commerce trade facilitation				
Inclusive trade facilitation (supporting women and other minority groups of traders)				
Trade facilitation for MSMEs				
Paperless and Cross-border trade facilitation				
Trade facilitation in times of crisis				
Sectoral trade facilitation				
Transport and logistics facilitation				
Other (please specify)				

[COMMENTS]

c. Barriers/bottlenecks

7. Barriers/bottlenecks to the implementation of the future trade facilitation

Please assess the impact level of potential barriers or bottlenecks at 0 to 3 scale for each work area for future trade facilitation.

Work areas for future trade facilitation	**Impact level of potential barriers or bottlenecks**							
	The influence of lack or insufficiency of each of the factors (see below) on the implementation of the future trade facilitation agenda across all the country groups: from 1 (no influence); 2 (some influence); to 3 (significant influence); 0 – do not know / cannot assess							
	Law/ Regulation	Technology	Institutions/ Interagency coordination and cooperation	Human resources	Infrastructure	Political will/ policy	Private sector engagement	Other (please specify)
Use of emerging information and communication technologies (ICT) in trade facilitation								
Facilitation of the [green /] sustainable trade								
Facilitation of the trade in goods sold via e-commerce								
Facilitation of inclusive trade								
MSME trade facilitation								
Paperless and Cross-border trade facilitation								
Trade facilitation at the time of emergencies								
Sectoral trade facilitation								
Trade facilitation in services								
Transport and logistics facilitation								
Other (please specify)								

[COMMENTS]

d. Stakeholder engagement

8. Stakeholders deserving the most attention in the future trade facilitation efforts

Please tick top 3 (three) most significant stakeholders in current trade facilitation efforts, as well as for the future trade facilitation.

Stakeholders	**Current engagement**: Choose the 3 (three) stakeholders most significantly engaged in the current trade facilitation efforts	**Future engagement:** Choose 3 (three) stakeholders that deserve the most attention in the future trade facilitation efforts (within the next 5 (five) years)
Government/public sector (incl. customs and OGAs staff)		
Traders/private sector (incl. MSMEs)		
Transport operators (incl. transporters and freight forwarders)		
Trade logistics infrastructure operators (incl. ports, dry ports, warehouses)		
Intermediaries/private sector (customs brokers and the like)		
Standard-setting bodies (all levels – international, regional, domestic)		
Trade finance providers (incl. banks and NBFIs)		
Security agencies (WCO SAFE implementation)		
Postal services		
Chambers of commerce, BSOs, and other professional associations		
Other stakeholders (please specify)		

[COMMENTS]

C. DETAILED ASSESSMENT OF THE FUTURE TRADE FACILITATION BY THE WORK AREAS

a. Emerging Technologies in Trade Facilitation

9. Prioritization of the emerging technological solutions

Please tick the 3 (three) emerging technological solutions to be prioritized overall and for each country group within the next 5 (five) years).

Emerging technological solution	**Top three (3) priority emerging technological solutions to be implemented into the trade facilitation processes within the next five (5) years overall and for each of the country groups**			
	Overall	DE (developed economies)	DC (developing countries)	LDCs (least developed countries)
Artificial Intelligence				
Automated data analytics				
Cloud data storage/processing				
Individual e-ID				
Corporate e-ID / International corporate e-identification				
Electronic trust services				
Electronic transferrable records				
Internet of Things (IoT)				
Open governmental data				
Online dispute resolution				
Privacy-enhancing technologies (PETs)				
Permissionless blockchain				
Other distributed ledger technologies (incl. “private”blockchain)				
Other fintech solutions				
Other (please specify)				

10. Potential bottlenecks impacting the use of emerging ICT technologies in trade facilitation
Please assess the impact of each potential bottleneck at a scale of 0 to 3.

Potential bottleneck	**The influence of each bottleneck**: from 1 (no influence); 2 (some influence); to 3 (significant influence); 0 – do not know / cannot assess
Cross-border data flow restrictions and data localization requirements	
Insufficient legal/regulatory framework (*i.e. not all laws necessary to support the use of emerging technologies are yet adopted*)	
Diverging legal/regulatory framework (*i.e. laws necessary to support the use of emerging technologies adopted by the state partners diverge or are not harmonized)*	
Lack of interoperability between the technological solutions used	
Diverging [technical or organizational] standards (*i.e. national technical regulations and standards diverge or are not harmonized*)	
Lack of reliable technological solutions	
Lack of stakeholder awareness and/or capacity	
Other (please specify) Technical Reference Modeling or Master Data Management	

11. Potential international trade processes for the use of emerging ICT technologies in trade facilitation
Please assess the relevance of the emerging ICT solutions at a scale from 0 to 3 for each international trade process.

Value chain segment (x) / Emerging technological solution (y)	**"BUY"**	**"SHIP"**				**"PAY"**
International trade processes - Scope (non-exhaustive overview)	Contracting, incl. electronic transactions and electronic trust services	OGAs / Licensing and Permits, including the Single Window implementation and at the border clearance by the OGAs (both exportation and importation)	Customs clearance, incl. advanced ruling, advanced submission of documents and post-clearance audit	Transport and logistics, incl. port-, dry port-, corridor-., warehouse management, transit, and route management for domestic flow of cargo	Other measures (AEO implementation, etc.) – please specify	Payments and trade finance
	Relevance for the value chain segment or related area: 1 (lowest relevance); 2 (some relevance); 3 (highest relevance); 0 – do not know / cannot assess					
Artificial Intelligence						
Automated data analytics						
Cloud data storage/processing						
Individual eID						
Corporate eID / International corporate e-identification						
e-Trust services						
Electronic transferrable records						
Internet of Things (IoT)						
Open governmental data						
Online dispute resolution						
Privacy-enhancing technologies (PETs)						
Permissionless blockchain						
Other distributed ledger technologies (incl. "private" blockchain)						
Other (please specify)						

[COMMENTS]

12. Please indicate 2 best practices of use of emerging technologies in trade facilitation, of which you are aware

[OPEN]

b. Green / Sustainable Trade Facilitation

13. Prioritization of the green/sustainable trade facilitation
Please tick the top 2 (two) green/sustainable trade facilitation measures to be prioritized overall and for each country group within the next 5 (five) years).

Green/sustainable trade facilitation measures	**Top two (2) priority trade facilitation measures supporting green/sustainable trade to be implemented within the next five (5) years in each country group**			
	Overall	DE (developed economies)	DC (developing countries	LDCs (least developed countries)
Special customs clearance procedures for environmentally friendly goods				
"Greening" of the "ship" segment of the value chain (use of EVs, etc)				
CITES-compliant trade facilitation				
Trade facilitation for the circular economy, including facilitation of cross-border environmentally sound waste clearance and facilitation of trade in recycled goods				
Implementation of CO2 and GHG emission adjustment				
Use of renewable energy to run customs and related infrastructure (Net Zero commitment)				
Other (please specify)				

[COMMENTS]

14. Please indicate 2 best practices in the implementation of the trade facilitation measures supporting green/sustainable trade, of which you are aware

[OPEN]

c. Trade Facilitation for E-Commerce

15. Prioritization of the trade facilitation measures for e-commerce

Please tick the top 2 (two) trade facilitation measures for e-commerce to be prioritized overall and for each of the country groups within the next 5 (five) years).

Trade facilitation measures for e-commerce	**Top two (2) priority trade facilitation measures for e-commerce to be implemented within the next five (5) years overall and in each of the country groups.**			
	Overall	DE (developed economies)	DC (developing countries)	LDCs (least developed countries)
Advanced electronic data exchange between e-commerce stakeholders and customs				
Enhanced cooperation between postal and customs authorities				
De minimis (subject to allowable items/ value limits)				
Cross-border e-commerce economic zones				
Facilitation of international warehousing				
Interoperability of international payments				
Other (please specify) Integrated Risk Management, AEO scheme for SMEs and AEO Scheme for e-commerce actors				

[COMMENTS]

16. Please indicate two best practices in the implementation of the trade facilitation measures for e-commerce, of which you are aware

[OPEN]

d. Inclusive trade facilitation (engaging women, minority groups, indigenous people, etc.)

17. Prioritization of the trade facilitation measures contributing to the inclusive trade

Please tick the top 2 (two) inclusive trade facilitation measures to be priorizited overall and for each country group within the next 5 (five) years).

Trade facilitation measures contributing to inclusive trade	**Top two (2) priority trade facilitation measures contributing to the inclusive trade to be implemented within the next five (5) years overall and in each country group**			
	Overall	DE (developed economies)	DC (developing countries)	LDCs (least developed countries)
Inclusivity in the membership of the National Trade Facilitation Committee				
Streamlining inclusivity into the trade facilitation strategies and policies				
Making the trade facilitation information available in minority / indigenous languages				
Dedicated trade facilitation – related advice and support to the women's and disadvantaged groups' businesses				
Facilitated access of women, minorities, and socially disadvantaged groups to credit and trade finance				
Other (please specify)				

[COMMENTS]

18. Please discuss actual cases reflecting good practices in the implementation of the trade facilitation measures contributing to the inclusive trade, of which you are aware

[OPEN]

e. Trade Facilitation for MSMEs

19. Prioritization of the trade facilitation measures for MSMEs
Please tick the top 3 (three) trade facilitation measures targeting MSMEs to be prioritized overall and for each country group within the next 5 (five) years).

Trade facilitation measures for MSMEs	**Top three (3) priority MSME trade facilitation measures to be implemented within the next five (5) years overall and in each country group**			
	Overall	DE (developed economies)	DC (developing countries)	LDCs (least developed countries)
Alignment in the definitions of the MSMEs across borders				
MSMEs participation in the work of the national trade facilitation committee				
MSME national enquiry/contact points on trade, including trade facilitation matters				
MSME-dedicated online national trade information portals				
MSME national single submission portals / integrated service platforms facilitating MSMEs access to international trade				
MSME cross-border "networking" initiatives				
De minimis thresholds used in customs clearance				
MSME-specific capacity-building programmes				
Facilitated access to credit and trade finance for MSMEs				
Facilitated access to the AEO arrangements for MSMEs				
Other (please specify)				

[COMMENTS]

20. Please indicate 2 (two) best practices in the implementation of the trade facilitation measures for MSMEs, of which you are aware

[OPEN]

f. Paperless and Cross-border trade facilitation

21. Prioritization of the paperless and cross-border trade facilitation measures
Please tick the top 3 (three) cross-border trade facilitation measures to be prioritized overall and for each country group within the next 5 (five) years.

Paperless and cross-border trade facilitation measure	**Top three (3) priority paperless and cross-border trade facilitation measures to be implemented within the next five (5) years overall and in each country group**			
	Overall	DE (developed economies)	DC (developing countries)	LDCs (least developed countries)
Full Implementation of the National Single Window covering the submission of [all] trade-administrative documents				
Cross-border interoperability of the National Single Windows				
Interoperability and/ or Mutual recognition of electronic trust services				
Interoperability and/or Mutual recognition of corporate electronic identifiers				
Mutual recognition of AEOs				
Joint cross-border customs clearance				
Mutual recognition of trade administration documents				
Mutual recognition of conformity assessments				
Enabling cross-border electronic payments				
Other (please specify)				

[COMMENTS]

22. Please indicate 2 (two) best practices in the implementation of the cross-border trade facilitation measures, of which you are aware

[OPEN]

g. Resilient trade facilitation/trade facilitation in time of crisis

23. Prioritization of the resilient trade facilitation/trade facilitation in time of crisis
Please tick the top 3 (three) resilient trade facilitation/trade facilitation in time of crisis measures to be prioritized overall and for each country group within the next 5 (five) years).

Resilient trade facilitation/trade facilitation in time of crisis	**Top three (3) priority emergency trade facilitation measures to be implemented within the next five (5) years overall and in each country group**			
	Overall	DE (developed economies)	DC (developing countries)	LDCs (least developed countries)
Identification/ Listing of essential goods to be prioritized for clearance in the case of crisis or emergencies				
Special export and import clearance procedures to be applied in cases of crisis and emergencies				
Disaster recovery and business continuity planning for the ICT infrastructure facilitating customs clearance and related processes				
Strategic governmental planning for crisis and emergencies				
Emergency transport and logistics facilitation				
National and/or provincial emergency [public sector] coordination mechanism				
Emergency national cross-sector (i.e. public and private sector) coordination mechanism				
Other (please specify)				

[COMMENTS]

24. Prioritization of the special trade facilitation export and imports clearance procedures to be applied in the case of crisis and emergencies
Please tick the top 2 (two) such special trade facilitation export and imports clearance procedures to be prioritized overall and for each of the country groups within the next 5 (five) years.

Special trade facilitation export and import clearance procedures applied in cases of crisis and emergencies	**Top (2) priority special trade facilitation export and import clearance procedures applied in the cases of emergencies to be implemented within the next five (5) years overall and in each country group**			
	Overall	DE (developed economies)	DC (developing countries)	LDCs (least developed countries)

Facilitated clearance / prompt release of disaster relief and recovery goods, including via disaster relief pathways				
Early warning system for trade delays and blockages in case of emergencies				
Extending time limits for payments and financial obligations / Expanding deferred and delayed payment arrangements				
Waiving penalties for minor documentary errors				
Offsite customs clearance				
Support centres or helpdesks				
Facilitated entry of the goods subject to post-entry audits				
Temporary adjustment of the customs clearance timeframes				
Other (please specify)				

[COMMENTS]

25. Please indicate 2 (two) best practices in the implementation of the resilient trade facilitation measures, of which you are aware

[OPEN]

h. Sectoral trade facilitation

26. Economic sectors to be targeted by the future trade facilitation measures
Please tick the topc 3 (three) economic sectors that should be prioritized for the advancement of the trade facilitation agenda within the next 5 (five) years. You might supplement the list with additional/alternative relevant economic sectors.

Economic sector	**Top three (3) priority economic sectors on which the trade facilitation efforts should focus within the next five (5) years**
Agriculture	
Forestry	
Fisheries	
Mining	
Textiles and Apparel	
Pharmaceuticals	
ICT equipment	
Steel	
Environmental goods	
Automotive products	
Other (please specify)	

[COMMENTS]

27. Please explain the reasons of these prioritized economic sectors

[OPEN]

i. Transport and logistics

28. Prioritization of the measures facilitating transport and logistics

Please tick the top 3 (three) measures facilitating transport and logistics to be prioritized overall and for each country group within the next 5 (five) years).

Transport and logistics facilitation measures	**Top three (3) priority transport and logistics facilitation measures to be implemented within the next five (5) years overall and in each country group**			
	Overall	DE (developed economies)	DC (developing countries)	LDCs (least developed countries)
National customs transit facilitation (incl. internal, for exportation, for importation)				
International (cross-border) transit facilitation				
Digitalization of transport (incl. port- and dry port infrastructures)				
Low carbon mobility and logistics				
Multimodal transport facilitation, including dry port implementation				
Transport corridors facilitation				
Container traffic management				
Liberalization in the foreign vehicles' and drivers' access and mobility				
Other (please specify)				

[COMMENTS]

29. Please discuss 2 best practices in the implementation of the measures facilitating transport and logistics, of which you are aware

[OPEN]

D. **ROLE OF THE FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT ON CROSS-BORDER PAPERLESS TRADE IN ASIA AND PACIFIC (CPTA)**

30. The Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific (CPTA) is a UN treaty dedicated to enabling the exchange and mutual recognition of trade-related data and documents in electronic form,[1] arguably a key "next step" for trade facilitation according to UN Global Reports on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation (www.untfsurvey.org). Please share your thoughts, if any, on how the CPTA implementation could be guided and leveraged in support of future trade facilitation agenda.

[OPEN]

Thank you for your cooperation.

[1] See https://www.unescap.org/projects/cpta and https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=X-20&chapter=10&clang=_en