Introduction to Agenda item 2

First session of the Standing Committee



Key outcome

ESCAP
MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

REPORT OF THE FIRST SESSION OF STANDING COMMITTEE
OF FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT ON FACILITATION OF CROSS-BORDER
PAPERLESS TRADE IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

UNCC and online, Bangkok
12-15 December 2022

Annex 2. Collective action plan for the Parties

Task No.	Tasks	Year			Efforts required	Resources required	Level of Priority	Ration the pri
		2022 /23	2023 /24	2024 /25				
6.1	Develop a template for designing a national policy framework				The draft document has been prepared. However, it needs to be reviewed and refined	1) dedicated time by the members of Standing Committee	High	This ca conside Parties readine
6.3	Identify and select relevant international legal frameworks and best practices				1) review the draft document; 2) agree the list of international legal framework and best practice	1) dedicated time by the members of Standing Committee	High	Alignin framew internat framew practice evolvin
7.1	Prepare a guide on how to develop or upgrade paperless trade systems consistently with the general principles				1) undertake background studies by the working group with the support of the Secretariat; 2) prepare and finalize the guide	1) background study may need to be conducted by the external consultant(s); 2) dedicated time by the members of the Standing Committee	Medium	Updati system process
7.2	Develop a guide to help facilitate concurrent implementation of national and cross-border paperless trade systems				1) undertake background studies by the working group with the support of the Secretariat; 2) prepare and finalize the guide	1) background study may need to be conducted by external consultant(s); 2) dedicated time by the members of the Standing Committee	High	This is support develop paperle

Agenda item 2

a) national policy framework.

b) capacity building strategies.

c) an effective national committee

j) Review the draft Reference Map for Cross-border Paperless Trade Processes.

d) the cross-border paperless trade database

f) develop a guide to help facilitate concurrent implementation of national and cross-border paperless trade systems.

g) Develop a model memorandum of understanding and service-level agreement to be used by parties at the bilateral and multilateral levels.

h) Discuss how to prepare a guide on engaging in a cross-border exchange of trade-related data and documents in electronic form consistent with regional and international laws and regulations and best practices.

i) Review the draft document on technologically neutral mutual recognition mechanism.

e) Discuss how to prioritize cross-border paperless trade processes, documents and data for pilot projects

Discussion of each agenda item 2

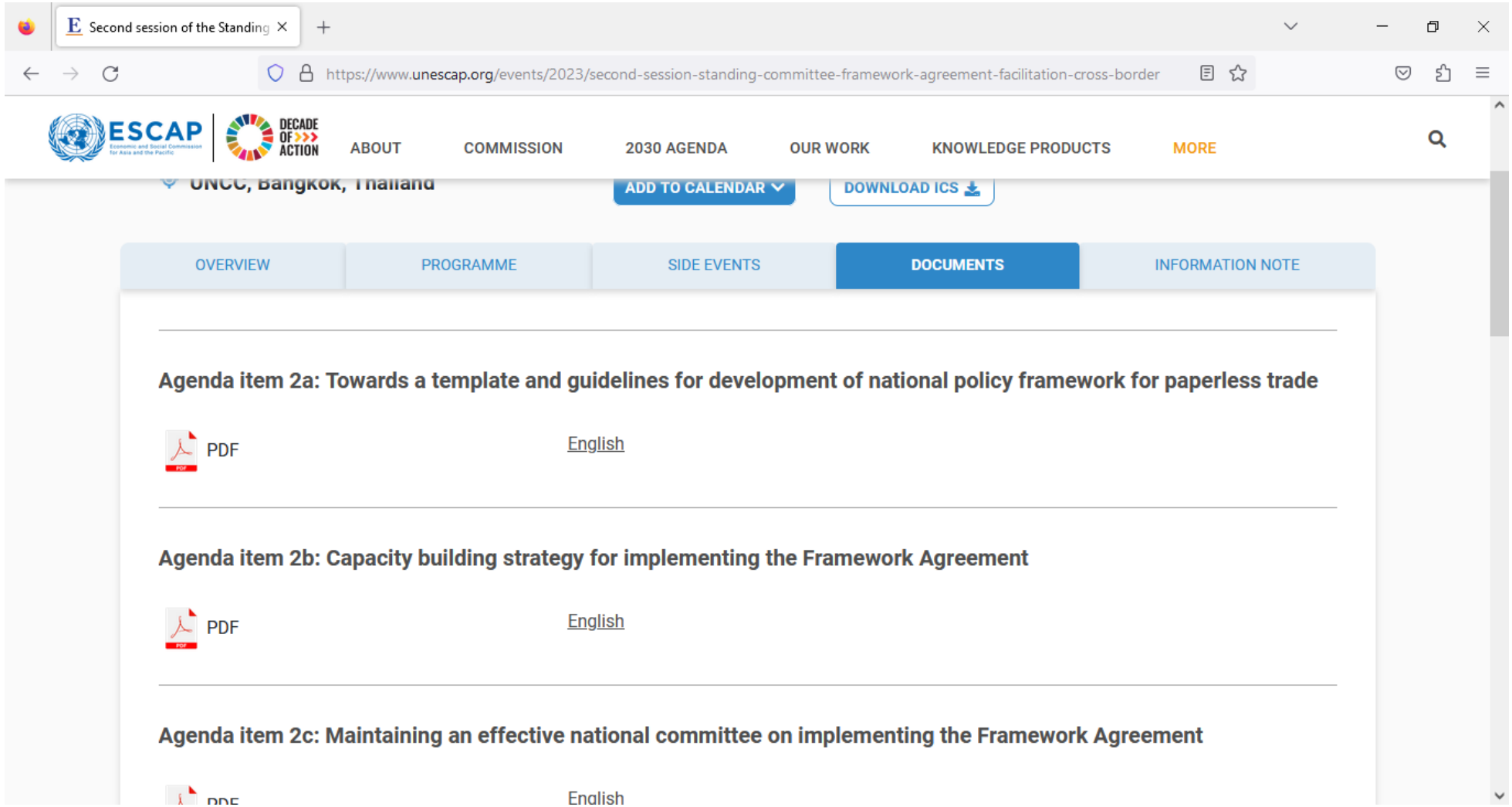
a) Duration of discussion for each topic may vary depending on the intervention from the participants.

b) Discussion of each topic may not necessarily be linear, meaning that the participants may return to a topic for further discussion.

c) Given the large number of topics covered under agenda item 2, if there is no enough time to go through each topic, the Standing Committee will decide the follow up actions after the Standing Committee.

d) The secretariat or the invited experts will give an overview of each topic.

Background documents



Preparation before the session

a) A Note Verbale was sent to the Parties on 18 April to invite the parties to Standing Committee and Paperless Trade Council.

b) A call with the national focal points was organized on 23 May 2023 when we went through substantive and logistical matters.

c) A survey on what trade-related document(s) a party has exchanged with trading partners electronically was circulated to the focal points and participants on 30 May 2023.

d) Background documents were shared with the focal points on 31 May 2023

e) Further guidance on how to prepare the standing committee have been communicated with focal points several times.

Possible outcomes

- The proposed templates/background documents are accepted "as is" by the Standing Committee
- The templates/background documents are further revised and elaborated by the Standing Committee (and accepted in this or another session; with support of Secretariat)
- The Standing Committee or some parties identifies specific challenges for implementing specific issues related to the agenda item.
- The Standing Committee discuss/ decide how to follow up to implement each agenda item (e.g., working group, research project, ad-hoc meetings).
- The Standing Committee recommend that Parties report progress made on implementation of relevant agenda items regularly in upcoming sessions, including lessons learned.