Digital Trade Interface: When Sound Regulation and Innovative Technologies Produce Economic Payoffs

Date and Time: 10 June 2025, 11:10-12:30
Venue: Meeting Room F, United Nations Convention Centre, Bangkok, Thailand

Description

The session will explore how new and emerging digital trade technologies can act as drivers of greater efficiency and transparency in the movement of cross-border goods and digital payments, thereby producing tangible economic gains to a broad cross-section of stakeholders, including governments, firms and consumers. For materializing these gains, a conducive policy, legislative and regulatory environment are required to help these technologies, first to gain a foothold and then scale up.

This session will convene experts from governments, industries and international organizations to share their experience and insights from experiences working to improve cross-border trade flows. The session will discuss real-world technologies and solutions and share how the collaboration between public and private sectors can unlock the myriad potential these new innovations offer, including streamlining cross-border transactions, reducing costs, and fostering greater economic resilience. Key topics to be discussed include regulatory frameworks, interoperability of digital trade systems, and real-world case studies of successful implementation. Participants will gain insights into how well-designed and faithfully implemented policies, when combined with technological innovation, can unlock the full potential of digital trade, enhancing connectivity across the Asia-Pacific region and beyond.

This event is co-organized by the World Economic Forum (WEF) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) as part of the Paperless Trade Week 2025, led by ESCAP.

Session Flow

11:10 – 11:20	**Setting the Scene:** • **Mr. Tim Stekkinger,** Head, TradeTech Initiative, World Economic Forum
11:21 – 12:10	**Moderated Panel Discussion:** **New Technologies** • **Mr. Lingraj Mahanand,** Chief Executive Officer, Credore, India • **Mr. Lee Tarone,** Chief Executive Officer, pAiperless, Thailand **Data** • **Mr. Marcin Parafianowicz,** Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Empeiria, United Arab Emirates **Policy** • **Mr. Yann Duval,** Chief, Trade Policy and Facilitation Section, ESCAP • **Dr. Kaewkamol (Karen) Pitakdumrongkit,** Interim Secretary General, Pacific Economic Cooperation Council **Moderator: Mr. Tim Stekkinger,** Head, TradeTech Initiative, World Economic Forum
12:11 – 12:25	**Moderated Discussion and Q&A**
12:25 – 12:30	**Wrap-up and Closing Remarks** • **Mr. Alexandre Marchand,** TradeTech Specialist, World Economic Forum