

National Consultation on Facilitating Cross-border Paperless Trade

BANGLADESH

Co-organised by ESCAP, Ministry of Commerce and Bangladesh Foreign Trade Institute

21st July 2019, Mallika (Level 2), Hotel Radisson Blu Dhaka Water Garden, Dhaka

In moving forward in the area of trade facilitation and paperless trade in Bangladesh, legal and technical readiness assessments for cross-border paperless trade have been conducted, under a United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) project entitled “Facilitating Cross-Border Paperless Trade in Least Developed Countries for Regional Integration and Sustainable Development (Phase I)”, supported by Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF). The purpose of the national consultation is to review the preliminary findings from this work, consolidate and validate the results and develop recommendations and an action plan.

Materials can be found: <https://www.unescap.org/events/national-consultation-facilitating-cross-border-paperless-trade-bangladesh>

The Meeting will be chaired and facilitated by Mr. Ali Ahmed, Chief Executive Officer, Bangladesh Foreign Trade Institute.

08.30-09.00	<i>Registration</i>
09.00-09.30	<p>Opening Session</p> <p>Chief Guest: <i>Mr. Md. Mofizul Islam, Senior Secretary, Ministry of Commerce</i></p> <p>Guest of Honour: <i>Mr. Md. Mosharraf Hossain Bhuiyan, ndc, Senior Secretary, Internal Resources Division (IRD) & Chairman, National Board of Revenue</i></p> <p>Special Guests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Sheikh Fazle Fahim, President, Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industries (FBCCI)</i> • <i>Mr. Md. Masud Sadiq, Member, National Board of Revenue</i> <p><u>From the ESCAP:</u></p> <p>Guest of Honour: <i>Mr. Yann Duval, Chief, Trade Policy and Facilitation Section, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, ESCAP</i></p>

09.30-10.30	<p>Session 1. Technical readiness assessments on cross-border paperless trade in Bangladesh</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Presentation by Mah Choong Kean (Alvin), ESCAP consultant</i>
10.30-11.00	<i>Break</i>
11.00-12.00	<p>Session 1. Technical readiness assessments on cross-border paperless trade in Bangladesh (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Plenary discussion for consolidation and validation</i>
12.00 – 13.00	<i>Lunch</i>
13.00 – 14.45	<p>Session 2. Legal readiness assessments on cross-border paperless trade in Bangladesh</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Presentation by Prof. Donald J. Lewis, ESCAP consultant</i> • <i>Plenary discussion for consolidation and validation</i>
14.45 – 15.15	<i>Break</i>
15.15-16.30	<p>Session 3. Towards an Action Plan on Paperless Trade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Plenary discussion on draft action plan</i> • <i>Chaired by Mr. Ali Ahmed, Chief Executive Officer, Bangladesh Foreign Trade Institute (BFTI)</i>
16.30-17.00	<p>Concluding remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr. Ali Ahmed, Chief Executive Officer, Bangladesh Foreign Trade Institute (BFTI)</i> • <i>Yann Duval, ESCAP</i>

Project Officer (contact point):

Ms. Soo Hyun Kim, Economic Affairs Officer, Trade Policy and Facilitation Section, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, ESCAP

Email: kim51@un.org; Tel:+66 (0)2 288 1427